Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 07219 151106Z

15
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-13 DRC-01 /128 W
---------- 103497
R 131449Z SEP 73
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9770
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
USDEL JEC PARIS
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 7219

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO, KU, VS, VN
SUBJECT: ISRAEL-VIETNAM RELATIONS

REF: SAIGON 15800 NOTAL, 15257 NOTAL

1. SUMMARY. SOUTH VIETNAM HAS MADE NO MOVE TOWARD OPENING EMBASSY IN ISRAEL, WHICH ISRAELIS SUPPOSE MAY REFLECT GVN RECONSIDERATION OF ITS MIDDLE EAST POSTURE. ANSWERING FOREIGN MINISTRY QUERY ABOUT US VIEW, EMBASSY HAS MADE IT CLEAR (A) WE FAVOR DEVELOPMENT OF ISRAELI-SOUTH VIETNAMESE RELATIONS WHILE ALSO RECOGNIZING GVN NEED FOR SUPPORT AMONG MODERATE ARABS, AND (B) WHEN ASKED BY SOUTH VIETNAMESE ON JERUSALEM VERSUS TEL AVIV AS EMBASSY LOCUS, WE REPLIED THAT US REFRAINS FROM ADVOCATING ANY PARTICULAR COURSE OF ACTION. SOUTH VIETNAMESE MINISTER CURRENTLY VISITING ISRAEL HAS TOLD ISRAELIS GVN IS NO LONGER TRYING TO PREVENT RECOGNITION OF HANOI,FROM WHICH ISRAELIS DEDUCE GVN SOMEHOW FEARED ISRAELI
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEL AV 07219 151106Z

RECOGNITION OF HANOI IN LATE 1972 AND FOR THIS REASON MADE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

CONCESSION ON EMBASSY LOCATION IN ISRAEL. SOUTH VIETNAMESE NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE CANCELLED VISIT TO ISRAEL AT LAST MOMENT EARLIER THIS MONTH, BUT ONE GENERAL CAME. END SUMMARY.

2. ASIAN AFFAIRS DEPUTY DIRECTOR LAOR OF FOREIGN MINISTRY TOLD EMBOFF SEPTEMBER 12 GVN HAD STILL MADE NO MOVE TOWARD OPENING EMBASSY IN JERUSALEM PER GOI-GVN AGREEMENT OF LAST DECEMBER. SAIGON HAD NOT NAMED AMBASSADOR, HAD NOT CHOSEN LAND FOR CHANCERY, AND HAD NOT EVEN SENT SOMEONE TO EXAMINE POSSIBLE SITES. ISRAELIS KNEW THAT GVN WAS PREOCCUPIED BY PRESSING MATTERS AND ALSO MIGHT BE SHORT OF PERSONNEL FOR STAFFING NEW EMBASSIES. IT NOW APPEARED LIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT SAIGON WAS REASSESSING ITS MIDDLE EAST POSTURE AND MIGHT SEEK TO REVISE AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO PLACE EMBASSY IN TEL AVIV RATHER THAN JERUSALEM TO PLACATE ARABS, OR MIGHT NOT OPEN EMBASSY HERE AT ALL.

3. ANSWERING LAOR'S QUERY ABOUT US VIEW, EMBOFF RECALLED EXCHANGE WITH LAOR AUGUST 24 RE PROPOSED VISIT TO ISRAEL OF VIETNAMESE MILITARY DELEGATION (PER STATE 167812 NOTAL). LAOR HAD BEEN INFORMED AT THAT TIME THAT AMEMBASSY SAIGON FELT THAT GVN'S INTERESTS WOULD BE WELL SERVED BY CLOSER RELATIONS WITH GOI, HOWEVER, GVN ALSO HAD TO SEEK BETTER RELATIONS WITH MODERATE ARAB STATES BECAUSE OF ITS DIPLOMATIC BATTLE WITH SO-CALLED PRG FOR INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION, STRUGGLE WHICH WAS IMPORTANT FROM VIEWPOINT OF US INTERESTS AS WELL. OUR UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT GVN CURRENTLY WAS DELAYING ESTABLISHMENT OF RESIDENT MISSIONS IN JORDAN AND KUWAIT AS WELL AS ISRAEL BECAUSE OF THIS PROBLEM.

4. AS FOR QUESTION OF TEL AVIV VERSUS JERUSALEM AS SITE, EMBOFF TOLD LAOR VIETNAMESE HAD CONSULTED US, AND HAD BEEN TOLD A) WHAT US LONGSTANDING JERUSALEM POSITION WAS, B) NAMES OF EMBASSIES NOW EXISTING IN JERUSALEM AND TEL AVIV, AND C) FACT THAT US REFRAINS FROM ADVOCATING TO THIRD PARTIES ANY PARTICULAR COURSE OF ACTION AS TO ESTABLISHING THEIR EMBASSY IN ISRAEL (STATE 92622 NOTAL).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

5. LAOR SAID GVN PLANNING MINISTER WHO ATTENDING REHOVOT CONFERENCE (ON ECONOMIC GROWTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES) MADE POINT OF TELLING HIM SEPTEMBER 11 THAT ALTHOUGH IT WAS SOUTH VIETNAMESE POLICY IN FALL 1972 WHEN ISRAEL AND GVN WERE NEGOTIATING ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS TO STRUGGLE AGAINST RECOGNITION OF NORTH VIETNAM, THIS POLICY HAD NOW BEEN DROPPED. LAOR SAID HE SUSPECTED GVN FOR SOME REASON HAD BEEN WORRIED ISRAEL MIGHT RECOGNIZE

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NORTH VIETNAM AND AGREED TO JERUSALEM AS GVN
EMBASSY LOCATION OUT OF THIS ANXIETY.

6. LAOR SAID GVN NATIONAL DEFENSE COLLEGE VISIT TO ISRAEL, SCHEDULED TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 5, HAD BEEN CANCELLED AT LAST MINUTE BY SAIGON FOR WHAT LAOR SAID WERE PURELY TECHNICAL REASONS. HOWEVER, ONE SOUTH VIETNAMESE GENERAL EN ROUTE TO EUROPE DID STOP OFF IN ISRAEL FOR 36 HOURS SEPTEMBER 7-8.
KEATING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MILITARY VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TELAV07219
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS KEATING
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730936/aaaaazza.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: SAIGON 15800 NOTAL, 15257 NOTAL
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <14-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAEL-VIETNAM RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO, KU, VS, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005